

What is claimed is:

1. An alloy having quantities of aluminum and silicon and at least one additional alloying element and a miniscule quantity of contaminants, characterized in that the quantity of the at least one additional alloying element is selected such that a microstructure with a plurality of intermetallic phases is built up.
2. The alloy of claim 1 wherein the percentage by mass of the at least one additional alloying element which is not silicon amounts to at least 75% of the percentage by mass of silicon.
3. The alloy of claim 1, wherein the at least one additional alloying element is copper.
4. The alloy of claim 3 wherein the copper content is greater than 5%.
5. The alloy of claim 1 used in a component of a combustion engine.
6. The alloy of claim 1 used in a piston for a combustion engine.
7. The alloy of claim 1 used in an upper part of a piston for a combustion engine.
8. The alloy of claim 1 used for the edge of a combustion dish of a piston for a combustion engine having a combustion dish in the crown.
9. The alloy of claim 1 used in a piston crown of a piston, where the piston crown has a combustion dish and at least one of a piston crown and at least an edge of the combustion dish consists of the alloy.